

SOUTHERN FIRE BEHAVIOR OUTLOOK

FORECAST VALID FOR: August 2, 2011	DATE/TIME ISSUED: August 2/0800 Hrs
NEXT UPDATE: August 3, 2011	SIGNED: Brenda Wilmore/Rick Stratton

*This is a general fire behavior outlook for the Southern Geographic Area. It is intended to provide wildland fire managers with an overall view of fire behavior potential and to assist wildland firefighters with making sound decisions and maintaining situational awareness based on current and expected fire behavior. This outlook is not intended to replace onsite observations or spot weather forecasts issued by the National Weather Service.

Some products provided in the outlook often are not updated prior to posting. Refer to updated information on the Southern Area Coordination Center Website as it becomes available:

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/sacc/index.htm>

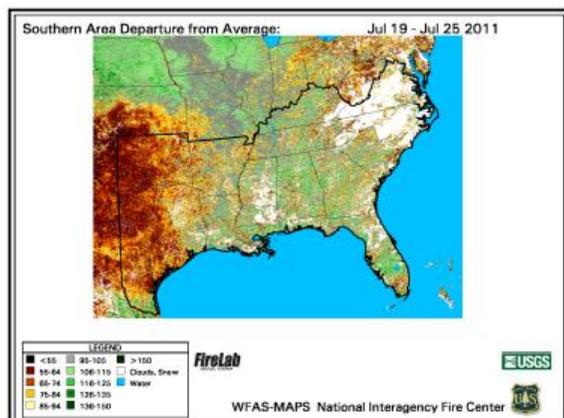
Fire Weather Summary:

*****Red Flag Warnings/Fire Weather Watches and Advisories**

There are no Red Flag Warnings/Fire Weather Watches and Advisories currently in effect in the Southern Area.

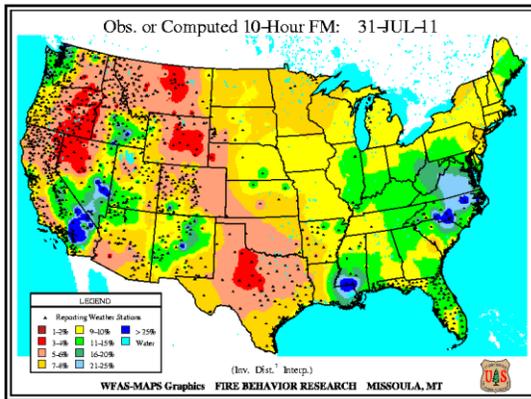
- For complete fire weather information and specific detailed forecasts see:
<http://www.weather.gov>
- Refer to the MesoWest Regional Surface Maps to access weather observations.
<http://mesowest.utah.edu/index.html>
- For updated fire danger and fuel moisture values link to:
<http://wfas.net/>

Fuels Conditions: State of the Fuels will be updated weekly or as the conditions warrant.

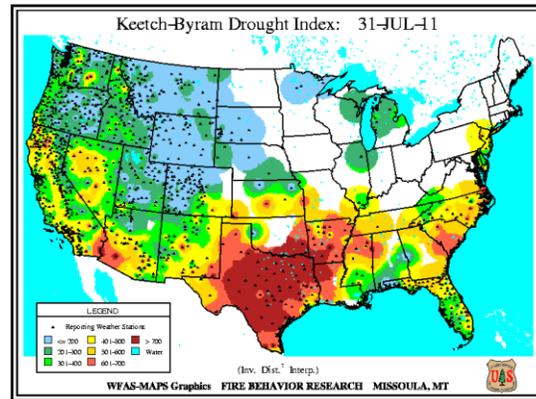


Dead fuels in Oklahoma and Texas remain extremely dry (lower single digits). Due to prolonged drought, in central Texas, Juniper stands are stressed to the point of mortality. The ERC's and KDBI's throughout most of Texas and Oklahoma are at all-time maximums.

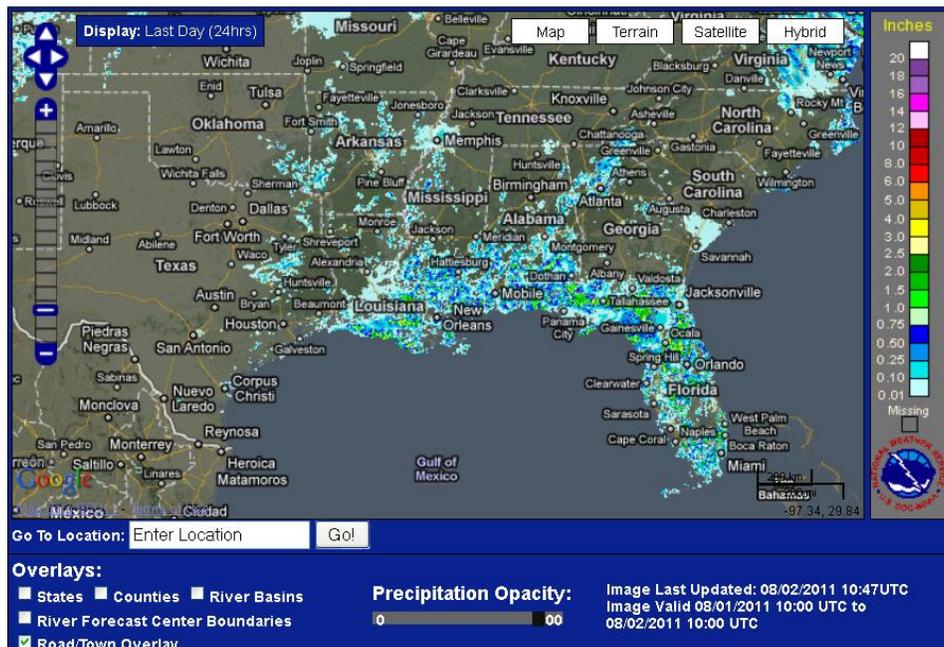
WFAS—10 Hour Forecast Fuel Moisture



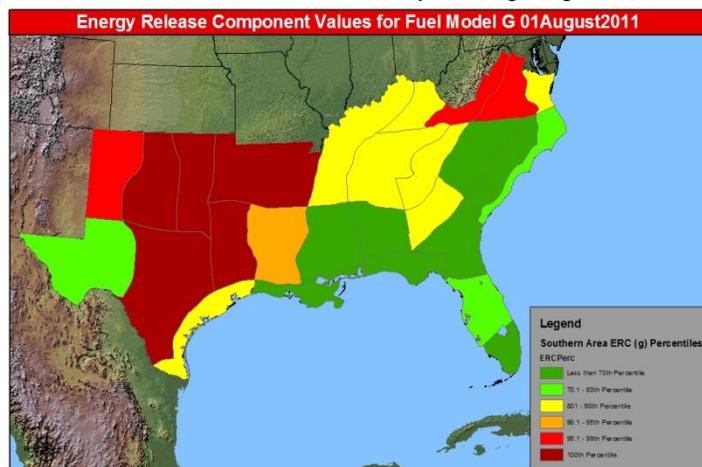
WFAS — KDBI



Southern Area 2 – 24 hour precip, ending August 2, 2011 @ 06:47



Southern Area ERC-G Summary Ending Aug 1, 2011



Energy Release Components for fuel model G, expressed as a percentile of their historical value. High values indicate areas where current ERC values are meeting or exceeding historical values for that area.

FWS/NFS Fire Management, 01August2011

Fire Behavior Outlook

Ensure **LCES** and the **Standard Fire Orders** are implemented prior to any action on a fire.

Northern and NW Texas & Central Oklahoma

Very High probability of large fire growth. Tuesday's weather continues to be hot and dry. One hour fuel moistures are predicted to be less than 2%, ten hour fuel moisture less than 4%, and relative humidity will be 10 to 20%. Winds are moderate (below 15 mph). This area continues to set new highs in ERC and KBDI.

Interior Texas/Eastern & Western Oklahoma

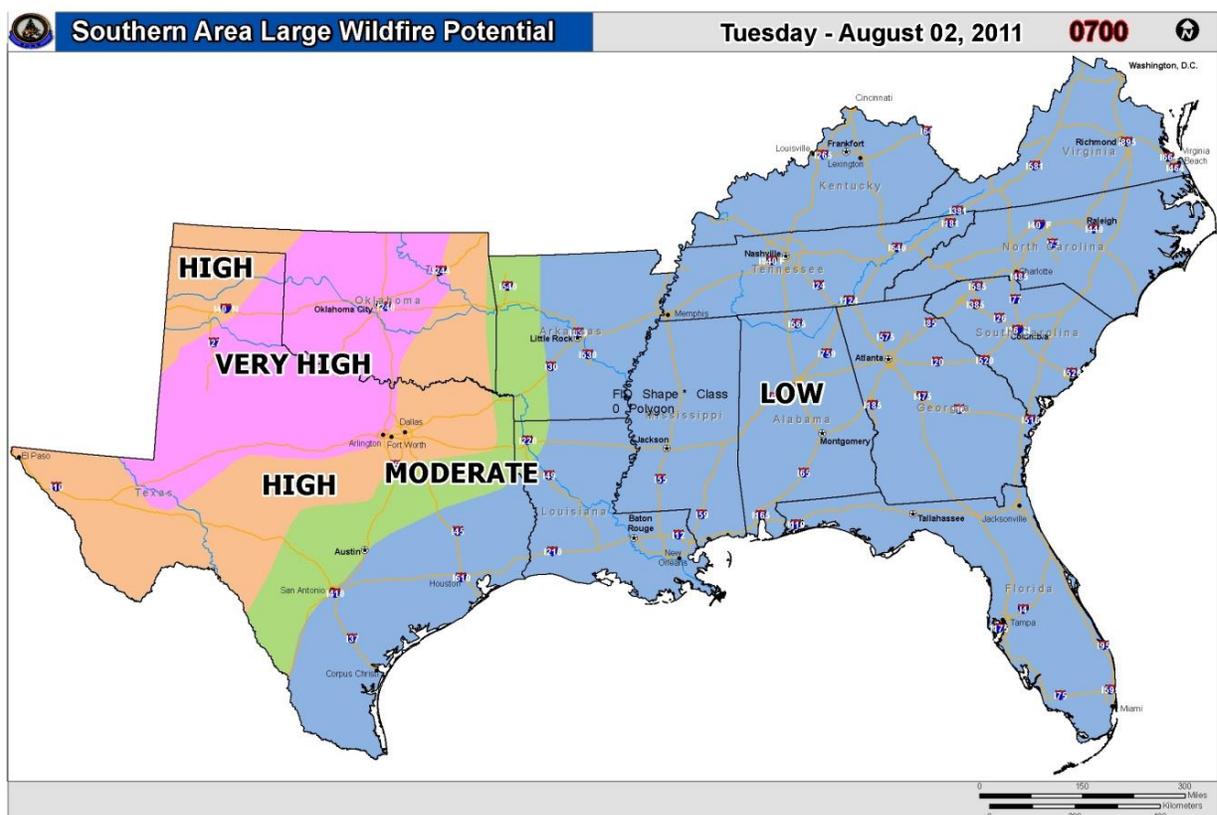
High probability of large fire growth. Like the very high probability areas, this area has not received precipitation for several weeks. Fuels are dry and indicies are just off their highs. Expect any new start to grow rapidly. Transition to shrub and timber types is likely. Winds are moderate (below 15 mph).

Eastern and Southern Texas & Western Arkansas

Moderate fire behavior can be expected today with any new start. This area is expected to expand to the East in the next several days. The moderate zone is the most difficult to delineate and is trending higher than lower. Winds are moderate to low (5 to 15 mph).

Eastern two-thirds of the Southern Region

Low fire behavior expected. The remainder of the Southern Region is rated low. A minimal amount of precipitation is expected in the very southern part of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and most of Florida. RH recovery is near 100%. Winds are forecasted to be light.



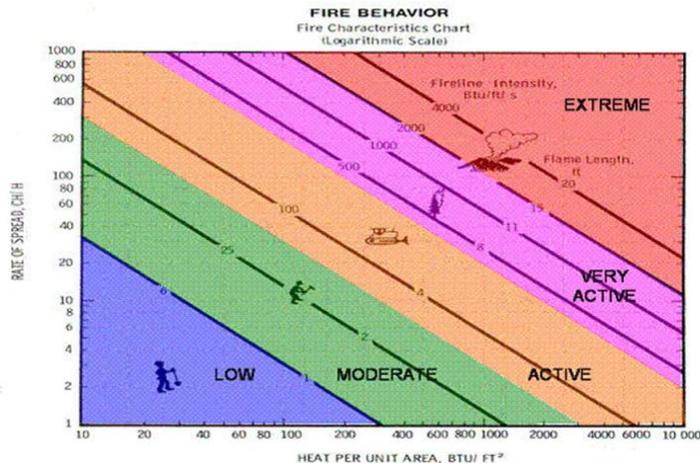
This product is intended to depict **GENERAL** fire behavior potential in the Southern Area. Information summarized from various sources applicable to the geographic area scale and is not intended to provide site specific fire behavior conditions. Individual fire behavior forecasts using fuels, weather and topography must be used for specific incidents.

FIRE BEHAVIOR INTERPRETATION:

Visual assessment of active flame length and evaluation of potential effectiveness of various resources and capabilities. The implications of observed or expected fire behavior are critical components of suppression strategies and tactics, in particular terms of determining resistance to control, effectiveness and safety of various resources.

FIRE BEHAVIOR ADJECTIVE RATING	FLAME LENGTH (FEET)	INTERPRETATION FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT
LOW	0-4	Generally attack at the head or flanks are successful, handline should hold fire with very little resistant to control.
MODERATE	4-8	Fire is too intense for direct attack at the head. Handline cannot be relied upon, additional support from engine, dozer, tractor plow or air support is needed.
HIGH	8-11	Fire can present control problems; torching, crowning and spotting can be expected. Control efforts at head of fire are often ineffective.
VERY HIGH	11+	Crown runs, intense surface burning and spotting are common; control efforts at head are ineffective.
EXTREME		Although uncommon, can best be described as erratic fire behavior that goes beyond human methods of control or prediction. Rare events such as well developed and sustained fire whirls, independent crowning and plume dominated fire growth.

The Hauling Chart is an excellent tool for measuring safety and potential effectiveness of fireline resources. Additionally, the Hauling Chart is also a useful tool to help firefighters get a perspective on the relative difficulty of constructing and holding a control line as affected by resistance to line construction by fire behavior.



Outlook:

The high pressure system will continue to persist and build to the east. Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas will continue to set records in the fire behavior indicies. There will be an increase in thunderstorm activity starting tomorrow in Kentucky, West Virginia, and North Carolina as the front that moved north of the high cycles south. Alabama, Georgia, and Florida will receive a moderate amount of precept on Thursday and Friday.

Stay updated by viewing the Southern area 7 day Significant Fire Potential product:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/sacc/predictive/outlooks/Fire_Potential.htm

Longer range outlooks reference the Climate Prediction Center link:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/index.php>